

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-11 ISO-00 CG-00 DOTE-00 AID-05

CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06

TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01

OMB-01 AGR-05 FEA-01 INT-05 STR-04 FPC-01 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SS-15 /119 W

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P R 151501Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4372

INFO AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

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CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, ETR, RO, MZ

SUBJECT: RHODESIAN TRAFFIC THROUGH MOZAMBIQUE PORTS

REF: MAPUTO 216

1. NOTICIAS OF MARCH 15, IN ARTICLE ALLEGING THAT RHODESIAN
DEPENDENCE ON MOZAMBIKAN PORTS IS GREATER THAN WHAT HAS BEEN
CLAIMED BY SMITH GOVERNMENT, PUBLISHED FOLLOWING DATA ON RHO-
DESIAN TRAFFIC THROUGH MOZAMBIQUE:

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2. PORT TRAFFIC: IN 1973, MOZAMBICAN PORTS HANDLED 2,840,351 TONS OF RHODESIAN EXPORTS AND IMPORTS. IN 1975, QUANTITIES PLUMMETED TO 2, 139,624 TONS, A DROP OF ABOUT 25 PER CENT. ARTICLE CLAIMS THAT IN 1973 ABOUT 80 PERCENT OF RHOEDSIA'S EXPORTS AND IMPORTS TRANSITED MOZAMBIQUE, AND ABOUT 60 PER CENT IN 1975.

3. PORT OF MAPUTO: IN ORDER, FIGURES FOR 1973, 1974 AND 1975 ARE AS FOLLOWS:
IMPORTS: 792, 614 TONS; 739,398 TONS; 438,144 TONS. EXPORTS: 1,329,468 TONS; 1,020,472 TONS; 766,000 TONS. TOTALS: 2,122,082 TONS; 1,759,852 TONS; 1,024,144 TONS.

4. PORT OF BEIRA: IN SAME ORDER, FIGURES ARE AS FOLLOWS:
IMPORTS: 170,271 TONS; 211,702 TONS; 165,319 TONS. EXPORTS: 547,998 TONS; 731,156 TONS; 770, 161 TONS.
TOTALS/ 718,269 TONS; 942,858 TONS; 935,480 TONS.

5. ROLLING STOCK SEIZED: ARTICLE STAED THAT WHEN BORDERS WERE CLOSED, 2,300 RHODESIAN RAIL CARS IN MOZAMBIQUE WERE CONFISCATED. REPORT CLAIMS THAT RHODESIAN HAS TOTAL OF 13,842 RAIL CARS. THUS RHODESIA LOST ABOUT ONE-SIXTH OF ITS ROLLING STOCK. MOZAMBIQUE CLAIMS TO HAVE HAD ONLY 71 RAIL CARS IN RHODESIA.

5. COMMENT: REFTEL REPORTED 3.5 MILLION TONS PER YEAR OF RHODESIAN EXPORTS AND IMPORT. THIS FIGURE REPRESENTS TOTAL RHODESIAN GOODS HANDLED BY MOZAMBICAN RAIL SYSTEM. FIGURES HEREIN PROBABLY ARE MORE ACCURATE MEASUREMENT OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS. WHILE WE CANNOT VERIFY ROLLING STOCK CLAIM, SOURCES INDICATED THAT RHODESIA IS FAR MORE LIKELY TO HAVE HAD A GREATER NUMBER OF RAIL CARS IN MOZAMBIQUE THAN THE REVERSE, THEREFORE FIGURES AS STATED MAY BE ACCURATE.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, DATA, ECONOMIC WARFARE, EMBARGOES, ACCESS TO PORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MAPUTO000250
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760098-0878
From: MAPUTO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760361/aaaacbfj.tel
Line Count: 95
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 MAPUTO 216
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 MAY 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <08 SEP 2004 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RHODESIAN TRAFFIC THROUGH MOZAMBIQUE PORTS
TAGS: ETRD, EWWT, RH, MZ
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006